

REMARKS

Claims 1-16, 20-22, and 26 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 10, 12, 14, and 20-22 have been amended hereby. Claims 23-25 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 10, 12, 14, and 20-22 are in independent form. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Claims 23-25 have been canceled, thereby rendering the rejection thereof moot.

Claims 14 has been amended in part to add a semicolon after “value,” as requested in the Office Action on page 2. Withdrawal of the objection thereof is requested.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of Claims 1, 3-6, 9, 10, 12-14, 16, 20-22, and 26 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,714,222 (“Bjorn”); of the rejection of Claims 2 and 11 as being obvious over Bjorn in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0175896 (“Vaananen”); and of the rejection of Claims 7, 8, and 15 as being obvious over Bjorn in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,340,957 (“Adler”).

Independent Claims 1, 10, 12, 14, and 20-22 have been amended to clarify that the value of the attribute of the file is represented as a physical weight and a density, exerting a virtual buoyant force on an object, and representing whether the physical weight and the density of the object is heavy or light, as described in paragraphs [0016], [0050], [0060], and [0064] of the published application, for example.

The Office Action concedes that Bjorn fails to teach or suggest the aforementioned features of the present invention, and it is respectfully submitted that Vaananen and Adler fail to cure the deficiencies of Bjorn.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1, 10, 12, 14, and 20-22, and the claims depending therefrom, are patentably distinct over the cited references, alone or in any possible combination.

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth above, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Favorable reconsideration, is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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